

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims. 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13. (new)

In a device for accelerating jaw growth of the type having a spring bar and retaining elements connected to the teeth of at least one of the upper and lower jaws, a ball joint comprising:

a ball-joint socket,

a ball-joint head rotatably secured in said ball-joint socket, said ball-joint head being adapted for separatable connection to said retaining elements, and

a cylindrical extension on said ball-joint socket said cylindrical extension having a radially outward open, annular groove facilitating connection to said spring bar.

Claim 14. (new)

The device of claim 13 including a screw axially and rotationally fixed in said cylindrical extension, said screw being adapted for connection to said spring bar.

Claim 15. (new)

The device of claim 13 wherein said ball joint head includes a ball and a cylindrical prolongation and further comprising a securing device for maintaining said ball in said ball-joint socket including a slot like recess in said ball joint socket and a fork shaped securing slide in said recess with tines straddling said cylindrical prolongation.

Claim 16. (new)

The device of claim 15 wherein said securing slide includes a middle region matches the spherical surface of the ball-joint head.

Claim 17. (new)

The device of claim 16 wherein two parallel openings are formed in said ball joint socket in alignment with opposite sides of said slot-like recess and wherein said tines extend, respectively, into said parallel openings.

Claim 18. (new)

The device of claim 16 including a screw axially and rotationally fixed in said cylindrical extension, said screw being adapted for connection to said spring bar.

Claim 19. (new)

In a device for accelerating jaw growth of the type having a spring bar and retaining elements connected to the teeth of at least one of the upper and lower jaws, a ball-joint comprising:

a ball-joint head including a ball and a cylindrical prolongation with an annular recess adjacent said ball, said ball-joint head being adapted for connection to said retaining elements,

a ball joint socket adapted for connection to said spring bar, said ball-joint socket rotatably supporting said ball and including

a slot like recess at one side of said socket and a pair of parallel openings aligned with said recess at the side of said socket opposite said one side, and

a fork shaped securing slide in said slot like recess including a pair of tines extending into said pair of openings, respectively, said tines straddling said cylindrical prolongation and being

disposed in said recess thereby maintaining said ball-joint head assembled with said ball-joint socket.